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2018 MAR -b A II: 23 February 27, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman Postal Regulatory Commission 901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20268

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

**Dear Commissioners:** 

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is to reach out to those who mourn, those who suffer, to educate the young and provide comfort to anyone who needs it.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have the following impact on our mission and the people we serve. It will drastically reduce our ability to fund our work, it will virtually eliminate our mailing outreach which directly provides comfort through mail.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

Phil Jackson

**Alumni Relations** 

Passionists of Holy Cross Province

Park Ridge, IL